

BUILDING WAREHOUSING COMPETITIVENESS

Standardization, Technology and Automation in Modern Warehousing

12 October 2018 | Radisson Blu, New Delhi

End user industries in India have warehousing demand of c. 500 million sf [Grade A and Grade B equivalent] warehouse space in 2016. Share of available good quality warehouse supply is only 28% (145 million sf) of the demand. The remaining is being served from low quality Grade C warehouses in multiple locations. This results low level of standardization for material handling and storage equipment. There are 6.5 million commercial trucks (LCVs, ICVs, MAVs, TTs). 80% of all the trucks are owned, managed and controlled by single truck owners, while 5% are operated by large fleet owners. This has impact on standardization of processes and documentation. Cumulative volume space demand by product and processed food based industries in cold chain warehousing is estimated at c. 700,000 pallets in 2016. However, only 250,000 (c. 35-36%) pallets of desired quality are available in supply. The remaining demand is being served from low quality conventional cold rooms due to lack of supply in many locations

The last 4-5 years have witnessed significant interest in development of warehouses in India. As per estimates around 30 MN sqft of new warehouses are expected to be development per annum for the next 3-5 years. This necessitates need to rethink automation and standardization to optimize utilization of modern warehouses.

Also, GST has resulted in creation of hub and spokes for the users. Existing large logistics parks and new parks will evolve as key hubs. The hub location will be determined by logistics cost reasons rather than regulatory reasons. The hubs will need to be designed and located to enable the following:

- Capability to handle multi-industry users including B2C
- Connectivity with alternate modes - rail, road, water
- Automation to enable velocity of cargo movement
- Ability to provide infrastructure to conduct last mile value additions on cargo

Collaboration, visibility and accuracy are key success factors in modern warehousing. The interplay of technologies such as telematics, IoT, cloud computing and cognitive computing is redefining the normal service levels in modern warehousing.

CII Institute of Logistics is happy to bring together industry thought leaders and participants to address the above issues in our warehousing conclave around the theme of **'Standardization, Technology and Automation in Modern Warehousing'**. The conference will focus on providing participants a comprehensive view of industry, eco-system and macro-economic trends influencing the supply chain and a vision of the future likely to emerge.

We hope fresh perspectives emerging from the conference will be useful for participants to design the 'future blueprint' for their respective supply chains.